JMU
James Madison University
Department of Communication

February 11, 1987

Mr. Harold Weisberg
7527 Old Receiver Road
Frederick, Maryland 21701

Dear Mr. Weisberg,

As you can see from the letterhead, I am now working for James Madison University. I apologize for not having written in such a long time. I still am very much interested in the Kennedy assassination, though the majority of the students in my classes have no idea of all the problems with the Warren Report (most of them don't even know what the Warren Report is, let alone understand its tragic flaws).

I don't know if you were able to watch the "Trial of Lee Harvey Oswald" on the cable via Showtime. I was very disappointed. The man who "defended" Oswald really knew very little of the case or he was completely inept. I doubt if he did that much background research on the topic. I am sure Howard Rofman would have done a much better job--he is a lawyer now, isn't he (I still marvel at the excellent work he did when he wrote Presumed Guilty at such a young age)? The one satisfaction I got from viewing the mess was even after Oswald was found "guilty," 85% of those who called in still felt there was a conspiracy in Kennedy's death. Hopefully someday murder will out.

I was disappointed when the Redskins lost to the Giants. It's hard to live in Harrisonburg and teach at James Madison University without being a 'Skins fan due to Gary Carter. There was a collective groan all over JMU when Carter couldn't hold on to that pass early in the game which would have probably been a touchdown.

The paper I wrote from my dissertation did not win the award of the best dissertation in my field for the 1985 year, but I did get an article from it accepted to be presented at the next convention of the Eastern Communication Association in Syracuse next May. I am waiting to hear from a "scholarly" journal I submitted the same article to for publication.

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I have been looking over all the material I xeroxed from your files and am trying to come up with another angle for a paper on the assassination dealing with communication. Any ideas? I am a little closer to Frederick now than when I was at Penn State, so if your have any things that might be useful in your files dealing with the communication aspect of the tragic event I would be up to your place in a minute. Of course I realize as a scholar I need to find out for myself. It still depresses me when I look at what has happened to our country since November 22, 1963. It depresses me even more when I look at our current president. Of course LBJ and Nixon weren't prizes either. And then we shouldn't forget the former member of the Warren Commission who finked for the FBI and lied about the Top Secret documents published in his book Portrait of the Assassin. I have heard it said once that the older you get, the more cynical you become. Oh well, c'est la vie. Best wishes to you and your wife for a good 1987.

Sincerely,

Bruce C. McKinney

Bruce C. McKinney
Assistant Professor